

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 2-4, 6, and 11-19 as follows.

1. (Previously Presented) An internet protocol based system comprising a plurality of entities, at least two of said entities being arranged to use SCTP for signalling therebetween, said SCTP signalling comprising a source port number, a destination port number, and connection identity information relating to a connection between at least two of said entities.

2[[,]]. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said connection identity information comprises address information.

3[[,]]. A system as claimed in claim 2, wherein said address information identifies at least one other further entity.

4. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein said connection identity information comprises information identifying an application.

5. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said connection identity information identifies a connection flow.

6. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein said connection identity information is provided in an SCTP packet.

7. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 6, wherein said connection identity information is provided in the data chunk part of the SCTP packet.

8. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said connection identity information is provided in a payload protocol identifier field.

9. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said connection identity information is provided in a field between a stream sequence number field and user data.

10. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 6, wherein said connection identity information is provided in a header for the SCTP packet.

11. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any of claims 6 to 10~~ claim 6, wherein said address information is provided in a separate field in said SCTP packet.

12. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein at least one of the two entities is arranged to provide further address information relating to at least one of said two entities.

13. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein at least one of said two entities comprises means for sending and/or receiving SCTP packets to and/or from the other of said two entities.

14. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein at least one of said two entities comprises means for setting up SCTP associations.

15. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein at least one of said two entities comprises means for receiving status information relating to SCTP associations.

16. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein at least one of said two entities comprises means for forwarding SCTP packets to a radio network layer in dependence on said connection identity information of said further entity.

17. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein at least one of said two entities comprises means for adding said connection identity information of said further entity to a SCTP packet.

18. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein said further entity comprises at least one of the following:

- user terminal,
- user,
- group of users,
- service,
- network, or part of network,
- server, or
- cell or base transceiver station.

19. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 wherein one of said entities is one of the following:

base station; controller; radio network controller; core network; radio network access server; gateway or server

and the other of said entities is one of the following:

base station; controller; radio network controller; core network;
radio network access server; gateway or server.

20. (Previously Presented) A method for use in an internet protocol based system comprising a plurality of entities, comprising the steps of:

sending SCTP transport signalling information between two of said entities, said SCTP signalling information comprising a source port number, a destination port number, and connection identity information relating to a connection between said two entities.

21. (Previously Presented) An entity for use in a internet protocol based system, said entity comprising means for sending to another entity an SCTP transport packet, said entity being arranged to include in said packet a source port number, a destination port number, and connection identity information relating to a connection between at least two of said entities.